

# Clarifying the Context of SE for the SEBoK

*Barry Boehm (University of Southern California) - boehm@usc.edu*

*Art Pyster (Stevens Institute of Technology) - art@pyster.com*

*David Olwell (Naval Postgraduate School) - dholwell@nps.edu*

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**Abstract.** The Systems Engineering Body of Knowledge (SEBoK) (Pyster and Olwell 2012) (see <http://www.sebokwiki.org>) portion of the Body of Knowledge and Curriculum to Advance Systems Engineering (BKCASE) project (see <http://www.bkcase.org>) involved three years of extensive and intensive discussions among its 70 authors and over-200 external reviewers worldwide. These helped the SEBoK effort better understand the implications of various candidate definitions of systems engineering (SE)-related terms and to shape the resulting SEBoK content. This paper focuses on the resulting clarification of four key aspects of SE: (1) What is the system boundary of SE? (2) Who are SE's operational stakeholders? (3) What are the relations among SE and other disciplines? and (4) What is the historical context of SE?